

MEMBERSHIP

- Department of Education (DOE)
- Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
- School Health Care Providers
- Maine Association of School Nurses (MASN)
- Maine School Management Association (MSMA)
- Maine Principals Association (MPA)
- Maine Administrators of Services for Children with Disabilities (MADSEC)
- Maine Education Association (MEA)
- Maine Parent Federation (MPF)
- Parents and Students
- Maine Chapter of the National Assembly of School Based Health Care (SBHC)
- Other Individuals Interested in School Health

“Good health supports successful learning. Successful learning supports health. Education and Health are inseparable.”

Desmond O'Byrne

For Further Information Contact:

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Department of Education

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(TTY users call Maine Relay 711).

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MAINE SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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SHAC

Working with Schools

MISSION STATEMENT

SHAC promotes sound school health policies and practices for educational institutions and advises governmental agencies, schools and communities to improve the health of children and adolescents.

WHO

1974 – The School Nurse Advisory Committee was recognized by the Department of Education and Cultural Services and the Department of Health and Human Services.

1977 – The School Health Board of Directors was developed from the committee.

1985 – School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) emerged from the board.

1988 – Interdepartmental Council agreed SHAC would remain independent.

WHY

SHAC's purpose is to advise state departments and other concerned agencies on health issues of students in educational settings and on a comprehensive school health program. Topics include: health education, physical education, health services, nutrition services, health promotion, school environment, and parent/community involvement.

ROLE

- Provides networking, clearinghouse and referral functions for school health issues
- Recommends, reviews, and revises school health policies
- Reviews school health related legislation and rules
- Provides input into review of health education curriculum and certification policy regarding school health services
- Responds to school health issues brought to SHAC

WHAT

ISSUES ADDRESSED OVER THE YEARS

- Developed standards of practice for school health services
- Developed policy guidelines, training program and web-based manuals
- Provided recommendations on legislation and rules, initial and revised
- Developed policies regarding HIV and blood borne infections
- Conducted several surveys on various health topics including the school nurse consultant position.
- Developed the guidance for the administration of medications in school, screening protocols, BMI
- Established liaison relationships to implement coordinated school health program